

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1 to 8 and add claims 9 to 16 as follows:

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 to 8 (Cancelled).

9. (New) A spring comprising:

first and second rigid end members moveable relative to each other causing the distance therebetween to vary;

an elastic spring body mounted between said end members;

said spring having a rotationally symmetrical cross section and a longitudinal section having biconvex shape;

said elastic spring body having a surface and being of rubber or a rubber-like plastic;

a first plurality of ribs arranged on said surface spaced one from the other at respective first distances;

a second plurality of ribs arranged on said surface spaced one from the other at respective second distances; and,

said second plurality of ribs intersecting said first plurality of ribs so as to form a multiplicity of intermediate spaces defining a corresponding plurality of polygonal areas on said surface.

10. (New) The spring of claim 9, wherein a surface coating to facilitate sliding is provided on at least one of said elastic spring body, said first end member and said second end member.

11. (New) The spring of claim 10, wherein said first plurality of ribs are mutually parallel and said second plurality of ribs are mutually parallel and intersect said first plurality of ribs orthogonally.

12. (New) The spring of claim 11, wherein said first plurality of ribs are spaced approximately 10 mm one from the other; and, said second plurality of ribs are spaced approximately 10 mm one from the other.

13. (New) The spring of claim 12, wherein said ribs each have a height of approximately 2 mm.

14. (New) The spring of claim 13, wherein said ribs are configured as wear or abrasion ribs.

15. (New) The spring of claim 14, wherein said ribs are made of a material which differs from the material of said spring body.

16. (New) The spring of claim 15, wherein said ribs have a surface to facilitate sliding.